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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/028,582	12/20/2001	Jeffrey S. Brown	01-241	3276
24319	7590	08/16/2004	EXAMINER	
LSI LOGIC CORPORATION 1621 BARBER LANE MS: D-106 LEGAL MILPITAS, CA 95035			PHAM, LY D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2818	

DATE MAILED: 08/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/028,582	Applicant(s) BROWN, JEFFREY S.	
	Examiner Ly D Pham	Art Unit 2818	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 11 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-10 and 12-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Amendment filed July 16, 2004 has been entered. Claims 6, 8, 9, 16, 18, and 19 have been amended.

#### *Claim Objections*

2. Claim 6 and 16 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 6, line 6, and in claim 16, line 5, 'detect signal' is believed to be a 'detection signal'. Appropriate correction is required.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 11, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cernea et al., hereinafter Cernea, (US Pat 5,532,964) in view of Albachten, III et al., hereinafter Albachten, (US Pat 6,014,247).

Regarding **claims 1, 11, and 20**, Cernea discloses a memory circuit comprising:

a bit cell configured to generate a bit signal (fig. 3, bit lines BL1, BL2, BL3, etc..., supplied with bit signals from bit cells as shown in figs. 2);

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a sense amplifier (fig. 3, 104) configured to generate a reset signal in response to sensing said bit signal (col. 7, lines 21 – 27, ‘sense amplifier causes a reset signal to be generated, and send to data latch’).

Although Cernea did not clearly disclose a control circuit which sets a control latch in response to a detection signal and reset the control latch in response to the reset signal, wherein when both the detection signal and reset signal are in an asserted state, the control latch is set, the feature is however shown by Albachten (col. 4, lines 37 – 47, ‘the set position dominates over clear in the flip-flops when both set and reset are asserted.’ Also col. 2, line 61 – col. 3, line 11).

Therefore, it is considered obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the feature shown by Albachten to the disclosure by Cernea so that two devices can access data in a dual port RAM (col. 1, lines 58 – 61).

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. **Claims 2 – 10 and 12 – 19** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior arts teach a memory circuit comprising a control circuit which set/reset a control latch in response to a detection signal and a sense amplifier reset signal,

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respectively, and further account for the condition when both the set and reset signal are in asserted state.

However, the prior arts did not teach the memory circuit further comprising:

a detection circuit configured to generate the detection signal in response to detecting an address transition signal.

Or

A pass gate configured to block the reset signal generated by the sense amplifier in response to the detection signal.

Or

a bit line pair conveying the bit signal from the bit cell to the sense amplifier; and  
a charging circuit configured to reset at least one of the bit lines in response to the detection signal.

Or

a reset latch configured to latch the reset signal as generated by the sense amplifier; and

a driver circuit configured to drive the reset latch to a de-asserted state in response to the detection signal.

### *Conclusion*

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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8. When responding to the office action, Applicant(s) are advised to provide the examiner with the page and line numbers in the application and/or references cited to assist the examiner to locate the appropriate paragraphs.

9. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 (zero) day from the date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned (see MPEP 710.02(b)).

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication on earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ly Pham, whose telephone number is **571-272-1793**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm, alternate Friday off. The examiner's supervisor, David Nelms, can be reached at **571-272-1787**. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Ly Pham



August 11, 2004



David Nelms  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800